

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN EA-09

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, KS

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE -- KOREA (IF ASKED BASIS ONLY)

1. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN
ON AUGUST 28.

2. QUOTE: QUESTION: WHAT IS THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S
REACTION TO THE SENTENCING YESTERDAY IN KOREA OF EIGHTEEN
OPPOSITION AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS?

3. ANSWER: OUR CONCERN WITH THIS CASE AND WITH THE HUMAN
RIGHTS SITUATION IN KOREA IN GENERAL IS A MATTER OF RECORD.

4. QUESTION: HAVE WE NOTIFIED THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT OF
THIS CONCERN?

5. ANSWER: WE HAVE MADE OUR POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
CLEAR TO THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT ON MANY OCCASIONS. SEC-
RETARY KISSINGER STATED IN HIS JULY 22 SPEECH THAT "WE WILL
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CONTINUE TO REMIND THE SOUTH KOREAN GOVERNMENT THAT RES-

PONSIVENESS TO THE POPULAR WILL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ARE
ESSENTIAL IF SUBVERSION AND EXTERNAL CHALLENGE ARE TO BE
RESISTED."

6. BACKGROUND: FYI: ON AUGUST 28 ROK COURT FOUND
EIGHTEEN MYONGDONG DEFENDANTS GUILTY OF VIOLATING EMER-
GENCY MEASURE NO. 9 BY: (A) DISTORTING FACTS AND SPREAD-
ING FALSE RUMORS ON AFFAIRS OF STATE; (B) ATTACKING THE
EMERGENCY MEASURES; (C) PROPOSING AMENDMENT OF THE YUSHIN
CONSTITUTION. THE SENTENCES RANGED FROM TWO YEARS TO
EIGHT YEARS FOR KIM TAE CHUNG, MUN IK HWAN, YUN PO SON AND
HAM SOK HUM. THE SEVEN DEFENDANTS WHO HAD BEEN AT LIBERTY
DURING THE TRIAL WERE NOT DETAINED AFTER THE TRIAL. THEY
MAY BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN OUT OF CUSTODY PENDING APPEAL.

KISSINGER

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